

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01

/135 W

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R 071745 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7441

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 2503

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, BE, MT

SUBJECT: MINTOFF VISIT TO BRUSSELS

REF: BRUSSELS 2111 AND VALLETTA 869

1. ACCORDING TO RONSE, FONOFF WESTERN COUNTRIES SECTION HEAD, MINTOFF VISIT TO BRUSSELS ON MAY 3 WENT SMOOTHLY. MINTOFF HAD REPORTEDLY WRITTEN TO PM LEBURTON, WHOM HE KNEW FROM SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS, ANNOUNCING THAT HE PLANNED TO VISIT FRANCE AND ASKING WHETHER HE MIGHT NOT PASS THROUGH BRUSSELS. MINTOFF MET BRIEFLY IN PRIVATE WITH LEBURTON AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE AND WAS THEN LEBURTON'S GUEST AT LUNCH.

2. IN PRIVATE TALK WITH LEBURTON AND VAN ELSLANDE, MINTOFF ENCOURAGED A EUROPEAN INITIATIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND PRAISED ITALIAN EFFORTS TO ENGAGE THE EC IN A COORDINATED PROGRAM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. AT LUNCH, MINTOFF EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT EC
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COUNTRIES RECOGNIZED MALTA'S DESIRE TO INDUSTRIALIZE AND WOULD
TAILOR THEIR THINKING ON ASSISTANCE ACCORDINGLY. BELGIANS
DISCOURAGED MINTOFF FROM EXPECTING BILATERAL ASSISTANCE, PROMISED
TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED PRIVATE INVESTMENT BY BELGIAN
FIRMS, AND WERE NON-COMMITTAL ON EC PLANS. MINTOFF WAS REMINDED
THAT BELGIUM HAD CONTRIBUTED TO UK-NATO PACT
RESOLUTION ON FUTURE ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDED CALL FOR STANDING
TIMBER COMMITTEE WAS CHANGED TO INVITE GB TO "TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
UNIVERSAL IMPORTANCE OF TIMBER INDUSTRY AND GIVE CONSIDERATION
TO POSSIBILITY" OF SETTING UP TIMBER INDUSTRY COMMITTEE ON
OCCASION OF NEXT GENERAL REVISION OF COMPOSITION OF INDUSTRIAL
COMMITTEES.

4. EMPLOYERS ON STEERING COMMITTEE PRESSED WORKERS FOR MOST OF
THE COMPROMISES. RESOLUTIONS AS MODIFIED WERE ACCEPTABLE TO
AND SUPPORTED BY USG. TEXTS BEING POUCHED TO DEPT.
BASSIN

UNCLASSIFIED
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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To: EC BRUSSELS
EUR
LONDON
NATO BRUSSELS
PARIS
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VALLETTA

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